

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

CORRECTED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
18 March 2004 (18.03.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/021809 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: A24B 015/24

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2003/027087

(22) International Filing Date: 28 August 2003 (28.08.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
10/237,837 9 September 2002 (09.09.2002) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO (INVESTMENTS) LIMITED [GB/GB]; Globe House, 1 Water Street, London WC2R 3LA (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): MUA, John-Paul [US/US]; 234 Chadwick Circle, Macon, GA 31204 (US).

HAYES, Brad, L. [US/US]; 111 Holly Lakes Drive, Dublin, GA 31021 (US). BRADLEY, Jr., Kenneth, J. [US/US]; 3360 Stinsonville Road, Macon, GA 31204 (US).

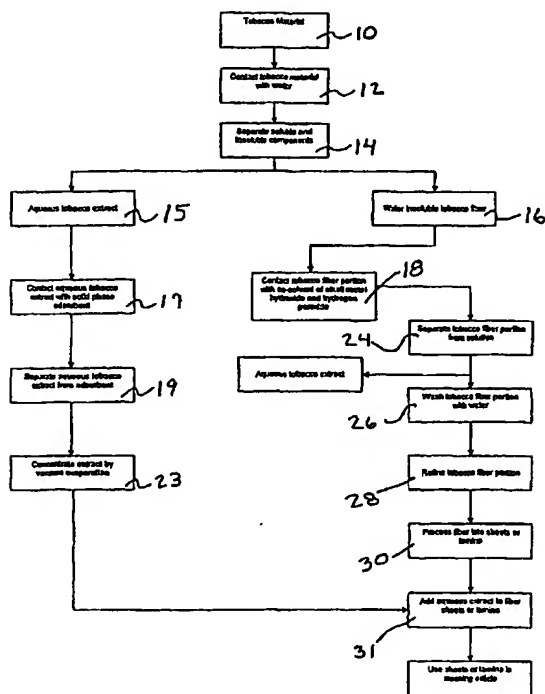
(74) Agents: SALAZAR, John, F. et al.; Middleton Reutlinger, 2500 Brown & Williamson Tower, Louisville, KY 40202 (US).

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A PROCESS FOR REDUCING NITROGEN CONTAINING COMPOUNDS AND LIGNIN IN TOBACCO



(57) Abstract: A process for reducing lignin and nitrogenous content in tobacco lamina and tobacco fiber material, including whole leaf, stems, scraps, fines and lamina, as well as burley leaf and stem, in an extraction with a solution containing hydrogen peroxide and an alkali metal hydroxide. The treated tobacco may then be further processed for use in cigarettes and other smoking articles.

WO 2004/021809 A1

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

WO 2004/021809 A1



Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM,
GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(48) Date of publication of this corrected version:

21 May 2004

(15) Information about Correction:

see PCT Gazette No. 21/2004 of 21 May 2004, Section II

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.